Government remains fully committed to take all necessary steps to effectively safeguard India's security and national interest in accordance with its assessment of threat to its security.

Indo-US Talks Regarding CTBT

3874. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) whether an Indo-US official level meet was held in New Delhi to discuss among others, the Nuclear issues like the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty;

(b) if so, the outcome of the talks; and

(c) what other issues were discussed therein and the decision, if any arrived at?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The two sides hold regular dialogue at ministerial and official levels in pursuit of the shared commitment to complete the process of qualitatively transforming India-US relations. The two sides discuss strengthening cooperation in counter-terrorism, defence, economic and commercial relations, science and technology, health, energy and environment, besides regional and international issues of mutual concern, including Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Bush'S instruction to Pakistan to end cross-border terrorism

3875. DR. KARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether U.S. President George Bush has again asked on 9th March, 2002 the Pak military ruler Parvez Musharraf to end cross-border terrorism and not to play games about terrorism and to create conditions for meaningful dialogue with India on bilateral issues; and

(b) if so, what was Paks response and Government's reaction thereto?